Dear Parents and Students,

The photograph on the front of the newsletter says it all; St Joseph’s College absolutely shone at the Queen’s Baton Relay Ceremony. The venue looked superb thanks to Mrs Nurick, Mr Morcom, Ms Alderman and Mr West. I would never have thought nearly our entire school population would arrive twenty minutes earlier than the normal start time; thank you to the efforts of our parents for making this happen.

The ceremony was enjoyable particularly due to the efforts of Mr Joel Murray who was associated with the Queen’s Baton Relay. The student leaders also completed their section with confidence. Our students’ behaviour was absolutely superb; a wonderful reflection of our parents and school. A large number of parents were in attendance and showed the community spirit that exists at St Joseph’s College. This event was truly wonderful from start to finish. All at St Joseph’s College should be extremely proud of what we achieved in hosting this event.

Congratulations to those in our community who were baton bearers: Sophie Lynch (Year Twelve QBR Junior Ambassador), Michael Berg (Year Ten student), Mr Adam Winter (father of Alex in Year Eleven) and Mr Phil Gough (father of Reagan in Year Three and Peyton in Kindergarten).

Keegan Berry in Year Eleven has been nominated for ‘WA’s Young Cricket Volunteer of the Year Award’ through the WACA. This is a great honour and reflects the time that Keegan has given to coaching an U14’s cricket team this season. He has also given considerable effort to running the trainings every Wednesday, all whilst umpiring every game on a Saturday morning. Congratulations on your nomination, Keegan!

Prayer: Queen’s Baton Relay Ceremony

Almighty God, you have created us in your image and blessed us with diverse gifts:

give us grace in these Commonwealth Games to celebrate the sporting talents bestowed by you;
grant discipline and purpose to competitors and teams,a grateful heart to those who win, and grace to those who do not gain the prize, that in all our dealings with one another,
the fellowship of nations may be strengthened in bonds of peace and love.

As this baton moves across our nation may it bring the Spirit of St Joseph creating a strong sense of belonging strengthened by never-ending support and encouragement.

Amen
Communication between parent and child is extremely important. Each day parents ask, ‘How was school?’ If you are one of the many parents who receive a monosyllabic response to this question, why not try some more specific questions? Here are some examples to commence the conversation. Try printing them out, cutting them up and getting your child to pull a question out of the box each day.

- What made you smile today?
- Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw/showed?
- What did you do that was creative?
- Was anyone in your class away today?
- What was the hardest rule to follow today?
- What made your teacher smile?
- Who did you help today? Who helped you?
- What questions did you ask at school today?
- Did anyone do anything funny to make you laugh?
- What is the most popular game at lunch?
- What was the best thing that happened today?
- How were you brave today?
- What are you looking forward to tomorrow?
- Teach me something I don’t know.
- Tell me something you know today that you didn’t know yesterday.
- What kind of person were you today?

Often parents ask how can they be involved or assist their child’s education. This year in the Junior School, all parents are asked to complete the following on a regular basis:

- Read to your child or have your child read to you
- Learn and revise sight words or spelling words (whichever is age appropriate)
- Learn and revise times tables relevant to the age of your child

If parents require any strategies on how to achieve the above, please see your child’s teacher.

Each year Lent offers us the opportunity to share what we have with those who have less and St Joseph’s College challenges our students in many ways to help those who find it hard to help themselves. This challenge to assist does not just mean talking about helping, but rather calls us to action. We can take action this Lenten season by giving to Caritas. Each class has a small Project Compassion money box. By donating to the Project Compassion Box, you will be helping to empower our world’s most vulnerable neighbours to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities, to build a better future for themselves, their friends and families.

This Saturday night during the Family Mass at 6.00 pm in the Holy Family Church, the school staff, and College Board will be commissioned in service to our school. The commissioning service reminds school community members that together we are working for the benefit of all our students. As educators we are ever mindful of the very important role parents play in the education of their children. As the Second Vatican Council put it: the role of parents ‘is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute.’ All families are invited to attend this Mass.
Being part of a Christian community involves us challenging one another to put our Gospel values, such as kindness, compassion, care and justice, into action. The benefits of serving those in need are overwhelmingly mutual. Many students at St Joseph’s College very generously give of their time at home, at school and in the local community. This year one of our priorities is to develop a Christian Service Programme from Year One to Year Twelve where our students will receive formal recognition for their time and generosity. Journals have been distributed in the Secondary School and cards for parents to sign for the younger students in the Junior School will be distributed shortly. A letter providing parents with insights into our Christian Service Learning Programme is currently being written and will be sent home in the near future.

Parents/guardians who hold a Family Health Care Card or eligible Centrelink or Veterans Affairs Pension Card can claim fee discounts by presenting the card at the College Office at the beginning of the year and completing a simple form. Parents of students in Year Seven to Year Twelve who hold these cards can also claim the Government Secondary Assistance Scheme rebate which provides funds for the purchase of uniforms and the payment of subject levies. Further information for families holding these eligible cards is available from the College Office.

Make a difference in the coming week and see St Joseph’s College flourish!

Mr Mark Browning - Principal

2018 Sacramental Year
Preparation for students receiving the Sacraments of Eucharist, Confirmation and Reconciliation during 2018 will commence shortly. If any families wish to have their child/children baptised and for their child/children to continue with the preparation of the Sacraments or simply to have themselves or their child/children baptised, please contact me and I can assist you with any arrangements. Contact details: direct message in SEQTA - Chris Palfrey, email - chris.palfrey@cewa.edu.au or ring the College 9844 0222 and leave a message.

Mrs Christine Palfrey - Liturgy and Faith Formation Co-ordinator

Girls’ Cricket League
Last Thursday eight girls from Years Eight - Eleven joined the first Girls’ Cricket League competition in Albany. The League started with a general training session with all players in preparation for the matches commencing this week. We wish the girls the best of success in representing the College in the competition. Thanks to Mr Doug Dallimore who has graciously volunteered to coach the team.

Mr Paul O’Donnell - Physical Education Teacher
Beach Fun Day 2018

The annual Beach Fun Day for Years One - Three was held on Friday, 16 February at Emu Point. Students were given the opportunity to partake in a range of activities including beach cricket, sandcastle building, beach noodle races, boogie board tows and thanks to some very determined parent helpers who weren’t going to let the windy conditions stop them - a slippery slide.

The Years One, Two and Three groups all participated enthusiastically throughout the day and when the time came to call it a day the students weren’t easily convinced to get on the bus and head back to school. I would like to make special mention of the many parent helpers who came down and helped in a variety of ways and a huge thank you to all the staff who were ably assisted by the Year Six student leaders. Everyone had an incredible day!!

Mr Glenn Scarterfield - Junior School Physical Education

Secondary School News

From Head of Secondary

Congratulations to all those who participated to their best at the Inter-House Swimming Carnival on Wednesday.

It was unfortunate a number of students did not remember to return the necessary permission slip and hence spent the day at school.

Hopefully, students will learn from this experience and we will not see a repeat.

Christian Service

Students in both the Middle and Senior Schools should have received their log book from their Home Room teacher. The log books have been designed to last for a number of years hence the number of pages.

Parents are urged to support their child in involvement in neighbourhood, Parish and community volunteer opportunities. Students at the College have always been generous with their time and energy - the use of the log book simply enables us to recognise and acknowledge formally the contribution our students make to the College and the community at large.

Middle School and Secondary School Assembly

The Middle and Secondary School Assembly will be held on Wednesday, 28 February in the College gymnasium commencing a little after 11.00am. The newly elected College leaders will receive their badges and others will be recognised for making a good start to the year. Hope to see you there.

Year Eight Immunisation

A reminder to parents and students that this will take place on the morning of Wednesday, 28 February. I am pleased to report that all Year Eight students returned the required forms.
Year Seven - Ten Social Function

Please check on the notices on this event for Friday, 2 March. I am looking forward to checking out some of the creative Picnic Hampers.

Have a great weekend!

“If ants are such busy workers, how come they find time to go to all the picnics” (Marie Dressler, Actress)

From the Pastoral Care Office

This week we have announced the 2018 Secondary School Student Leadership Team for Years Seven to Eleven.

I would like to thank all those who nominated. Candidates certainly made the voting process tricky with the high calibre of speeches presented.

Congratulations to:

Year Seven G - Logan Lionetti
Year Seven B - Erika Porritt

Year Eight
Georgia Bennett
Joel Delbene

Year Nine
Grace Larham
Angus Spencer

Year Ten
Cunningham - Monique Hueppauff
De Vialar - Chelsea Theodore
McCormack - James Le
Ozanan - Titan Hawkins-Puls

Year Eleven
Claire Martellotta
Benedict Jackson

The Year Twelve Prefects and I look forward to working with you all in 2018.

Mrs Caroline Tompkin - Pastoral Care Co-ordinator Years Seven - Twelve

Community Notices

2018 Albany Exam Boost Seminars - Academic Taskforce

For Exam Boost Seminar Timetable to be held at UWA Albany Centre, please click on the following link:
SunSmart Giant Kite Fun on the Albany Foreshore

All eyes will be drawn to the sky on Sunday 25th March 2018 for the aerial spectacle of the SunSmart Albany Kite Fiesta 2018!

Join kite artists Michael and Jan Alvares of Kite Kinetics who are running this FREE, family friendly event from 10am to 4pm at the ANZAC Albany Peace Park. Enjoy the display, bring your own kite, or purchase a low-cost kite making kit on the day. No registration is required—just turn up!

“This popular event, now in its seventh year, is an exciting day for the whole family” said Basil Schur, Green Skills Festival Coordinator.

Full details of the SunSmart Albany Kite Fiesta are available at https://www.facebook.com/SunSmartAlbanyKiteFiesta2018 or contact Basil Schur at Green Skills on 9848 3310 with any enquiries.

Info on Michael and Jan Alvares and their wonderful world of kites is available at www.kitekinetics.com.au

Remember to slip, slop, slap, seek and slide while enjoying this event, which is supported by Healthway to promote the SunSmart message. This Festival is supported by Healthway (promoting the Sunsmart message)